in the 'Indian Express' dated 27th July, 2001 that both surveillance and intelligence lapses led to the Kargil conflicts; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) and (b) Attention of the Government has been drawn to the newspaper report. Even while the comments made by the former Chief of the Army Staff, as reported, were in his personal capacity and therefore, may not warrant any comments from the Government, it may be stated that the Government review all developments impinging upon national security, including intelligence and surveillance, on regular basis. The government had constituted a Group of Ministers (GOM) on 17th April, 2000 to thoroughly review the national security system in its entirety and in particular, to consider the recommendations of the Kargil Review Committee and to formulate specific proposals for implementation. The implementation process of the recommendations of the GOM is in progress.

Pendency of project undertaken by DEAL

†2625. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the fact that many outgoing projects to fulfil requirements of the defence in Defence Electronics Application Laboratory based at Dehradun are being kept pending;

(b) if so, the projects DEAL is planning to keep pending;

(c) the extent of success Deal has achieved so far with regard to 'NAG' 'SARVADRISHTA' and 'NVIS' missile projects;

(d) whether DEAL has also decided to terminate some of the research and development projects;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) Government's attention has been drawn to such newspaper reports. These reports are not factually correct. No projects of the laboratory are being kept pending. All the projects are progressing well.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a).

(c) Project 'SARVADRISHTA' has already been completed successfully. Transmitter front end receiver for 'NAG' missile project has been developed and delivered. No project named 'NVIS' has been sanctioned.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

Disposal of solid waste at Defence Installations

2626. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of solid waste that is lying indisposed at various defence installations in the country;

(b) whether such waste has become a source of environmental and health hazard; and

(c) what steps Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) to (c) Some quantity of solid waste is generated in the process of production in the Defence PSUs and at various Ordnance Factories, which are not connected with environmental and health hazards. Such solid wastes are disposed of regularly in accordance with the safety norms without causing any environmental and health hazards. Some of the explosives are burnt in controlled conditions to avoid any hazard while disposing. In other defence installations, solid wastes are not allowed to accumulate. There is a regular mechanism to dispose of such wastes as and when generated. While disposing thereof, various safety requirements are taken into account.

Indigenisation of armament capability

2627. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a recent report by his Ministry has highlighted the need for indigenisation in armament capability in the wake of restrictions on transfer of equipments and technology, especially those imposed after Pokharan; and

(b) if so, what is the progress made by Government to achieve this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) and (b) There is no recent report by the Ministry of Defence which has highlighted the need for indigenisation in armaments capability. The Group of Ministers looking into the Higher Defence Management have, however, made recommendations relating to the harnessing of the industrial and technological capabilities in the country. Indigenisation of Defence equipment in the quest for self-reliance is a continuing effort.